

Message Text

SECRET

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14

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 OMB-01

DPW-01 DRC-01 NIC-01 /134 W
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O 110558Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6180

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC IMMEDIATE

CDR USSAG NKP IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T VIENTIANE 6995

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, MOPS, LA

SUBJECT: INFLUX OF LPF PERSONNEL TO VIENTIANE AND
LUANG PRABANG

1. RLG DEFENSE MINISTER THONGPHANH KNOKSY PROVIDED
ARMA THIS MORNING WITH COPY OF OFFICIAL TELEGRAPHIC ORDER
DESCRIBING MODALITIES AND DETAILS FOR ARRIVAL OF FIRST
CONTINGENT LPF PERSONNEL IN VIENTIANE AND LUANG PRABANG.
THONGPHANH SAID THAT INFORMATION ON WHICH TELEGRAM BASED
WAS PROVIDED TO PRIME MINISTER BY LPF ACTING CHIEF DELEGATE
SOUK VONGSAK YESTERDAY. UPON RECEIVING INFORMATION, PRIME
MINISTER SUMMONED THONGPHANH AND LATTER DRAFTED CABLE ON
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SUBJECT TO FIRST AND FIFTH MILITARY REGION COMMANDERS. LANE

PATTHAMMAVONG ANNOUNCED BROAD OUTLINES OF ARRANGEMENTS
AT HIS PRESS CONFERENCE THIS MORNING. FOLLOWING ARE
DETAILS:

(A) SOVIET AN-12 WILL ARRIVE IN VIENTIANE OCTOBER 12
FROM HANOI BRINGING APPROXIMATELY 80 TO 100 LPF
PERSONNEL.

(B) PRC IL-14 TRANSPORT PLANES WILL CARRY 80 TO 100
LPF PERSONNEL FROM SAM NEUA TO LUANG PRABANG, OCTOBER
15.

(C) TWO PRC EMBASSY OFFICERS HAVE PROCEEDED TO LUANG
PRABANG BY RLAF C-47 OCTOBER 11, ACCOMPANIED BY COLONEL
ARYA PHIMMASONE AND MEMBERS OF LPF AND RLG DELEGATIONS
TO JCIA. THEY WILL PREPARE FACILITIES FOR ARRIVAL OF
FOUR PRC TECHNICIANS IN LUANG PRABANG OCTOBER 12. THESE
TECHNICIANS HAVE RADIO TRANSCEIVER COMPATIBLE WITH
IL-14 EQUIPMENT AND WILL BE IN CHARGE OF GROUND SERVICES
FOR PRC AIRCRAFT.

2. RLG CABLE DIRECTED FIRST AND FIFTH MILITARY REGION
COMMANDERS TO PROVIDE "ONE-TIME" TRANSPORTATION FOR
LPF PERSONNEL FROM AIRPORTS IN BOTH CITIES TO THEIR
QUARTERS. THEY WERE ALSO DIRECTED TO MAXIMIZE
SECURITY MEASURES TO PREVENT ANY INCIDENTS.

3. GENERAL THONGPHANH REMARKED TO ARMA THAT
DURING CONVERSATION WITH SOUK VONGSAK, PRIME
MINISTER HAD DIRECTED THONGPHANH
TO CONTACT AMERICAN EMBASSY TO OBTAIN NECESSARY
EQUIPMENT AND OTHER ITEMS FOR LPF CONTINGENT.

4. ALTHOUGH OFFICIALS OF JCIA ARE INVOLVED IN
ABOVE ARRANGEMENTS, AND MILITARY AUTHORITIES HAVE
BEEN NOTIFIED BY CABLE MENTIONED ABOVE, THERE IS
GROWING CONCERN AMONG POLITICAL CIRCLES IN VIENTIANE
THAT INFLUX OF LPF PERSONNEL WILL PROCEED IN
UNMONITORED FASHION WITH PRIME MINISTER MAKING
DECISIONS UNILATERALLY WITHOUT PAYING ATTENTION TO
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BUDGETARY STRINGENCIES, AVAILABLE ACCOMMODATION,
AND PARTICULAR INTERESTS OF NON-COMMUNIST GROUPS.
WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT JCIA MET FORMALLY FOR
FIRST TIME THIS MORNING, AND THUS WE PRESUME THAT
ABOVE MEASURES IMPLEMENTING PROTOCOL RECEIVED ITS
APPROVAL. NEVERTHELESS, WE ANTICIPATE THAT
THERE WILL BE SOME TENSION IN VIENTIANE OVER THE
NEXT WEEK AS LPF ARRIVALS BEGIN.

WHITEHOUSE

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